



**City Council  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
April 20, 2015 @ 6:00 p.m.  
Trinity City Hall Annex  
Trinity, NC 27370**

**Members Present:** *Mayor*, Jesse Hill; *Mayor Pro-Tem*, Debbie Frazier;  
**Council Members:** Chester Ayers, Gene Byerly, Jack Carico, Linda Gantt, Ed Lohr, Jerry Daniels and Don Payne.

**Others Present:** City Manager, Debbie Hinson; Public Works Director/ Stormwater Administrator, Rich Baker; Assistant Finance Officer, Lisa Beam; Assistant City Clerk, Annette de Ruyter; Randolph County Deputy, Eric Wilson; and other interested parties.

**I. Welcome**

Mayor Hill called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and welcomed everyone.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation**

Mayor Hill led the Pledge of Allegiance and Council member Payne gave the Invocation.

**III. Approve and/or Amend Agenda**

*A motion was made by Council member Ayers to approve the April 20, 2015 agenda as written. The motion was seconded by Council member Frazier and approved unanimously by a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays.*

**A. Action Item Report**

Mayor Hill opened this item and called on Manager Hinson for information regarding this report.

Manager Hinson reviewed the Action Item Report reviewing all items Council took action on from the April 13, 2015 Pre-Agenda Meeting. **(The Action Item Report reviewed by Manager Hinson is labeled Exhibit 1 attached at the end of this document).**

**B. Public Comment**

There were no Public Comments

#### **IV. Funding Request for 2015-2016 Annual Budget**

##### **1. Randolph County Senior Adults**

Mayor Hill opened this item and called on Ms. Dawn Gartman, Executive Director of the Randolph County Senior Adults for presentation of the information to Council members relating to this request.

Ms. Gartman reviewed the information provided to Council in her letter to the City Manager dated March 20, 2015 that included the amount of funds requested \$20,374.20, the number of residents that utilized RCATS transportation, other programs that trinity residents are eligible to receive, and activities that they may participate in that are provided at the Archdale Senior Center.

She also reviewed the information regarding the age of the total population in Trinity and the statistics relating to the population regarding minorities and poverty levels.

In closing, Ms. Garman thanked Council for their continued support for this program and invited them to attend the Archdale Senior Center anytime to see the results of some of the programs offered for the seniors and the difference that they make in their lives.

At the end of the review, Manager Hinson advised Ms. Garman that this request would be taken under consideration during the annual budget review. If approved during the budget, she would be notified.

**(The letter to Manager Hinson is labeled Exhibit 2 and attached at the end of this document).**

##### **2. Randolph County Animal Control**

Mayor Hill opened this item and called on Ms. Mimi Cooper, Health Director of Randolph for presentation of the information to Council members relating to this request.

Ms. Cooper thanked Council for requesting this service 7 years ago and continuing to allow Randolph County to provide Animal Control for the City. We provide this service for Franklinville and Seagrove and have provided this service to the City of Asheboro for a number of years. The City of Asheboro has decided that they would like to provide their own Animal Control beginning this year.

The costs to provide this service for the City of Trinity for the 15-16 budget year have been forwarded to your staff. These costs are a bit higher than in the past since the City of Asheboro is no longer involved in this process.

In closing, Ms. Cooper thanked Council and called for questions.

Hearing no questions, Mayor Hill thanked Ms. Cooper for coming and making this presentation. He advised her that this request would be reviewed during the budget process.

##### **3. Randolph County Library - Archdale/Trinity Branch**

Mayor Hill opened this item and called on Matt Shaw, Librarian of the Randolph County Library Archdale/Trinity Branch for presentation of the information to Council members relating to this request.

Mr. Shaw reviewed his presentation handout with Council discussing what the library offers to the citizens of Trinity, key service statistics, highlights, and reviewed highlights of patron comments from the 2014 Patron Satisfaction Survey.

After review of the handout, Mr. Shaw stated that the average item purchased for the library costs approximately \$14.00. If the city reinstates the annual stipend of \$5,000.00 it would mean that approximately 357 items could be purchased for the library collection in the coming year.

He thanked Council for allowing him to speak and called for questions.

Council member Payne asked what the procedure was used for purchasing books for the library, who decided on the purchases, and if there were any guidelines on content.

Mr. Shaw stated that a variety of things was involved in purchasing. The number one (1) thing that determines how items are purchased is whether we have purchased items in the past that are popular with patrons. Since my employment with the library I have taken over 700 purchase requests from patrons to buy material. I always try to buy the material unless it is something that is hard to get or too expensive. I typically buy most of the adult material and my assistant that works with me purchases the materials for teens and children.

There is a County Collection Policy. We try to serve a wide segment of a community and also recognize the community that we have. For example, one of the major spending areas of my purchases is for inspirational Christian fiction. This is very popular in this area and we try to serve that demand.

With no other questions, Mayor Hill thanked Mr. Shaw for his presentation and advised Mr. Shaw this request would be reviewed during the budget process.

**(The presentation reviewed by Mr. Shaw is labeled Exhibit 3 and attached at the end of this document.)**

#### **4. Randolph County Economic Development (RCEDC)**

Mayor Hill opened this item and called on Ms. Renfro, Executive Director for the Randolph County Economic Development Corporation for presentation of the information to Council members relating to this request.

Ms. Renfro expressed her pleasure to speak with Council regarding Council's consideration to renew the partnership with the Randolph County Economic Development Corporation for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 in the amount of \$5,000.00. This amount is consistent with the four (4) years prior funding by the City.

Since there are some new Council members that Ms. Renfro had not worked with she did a short overview of the set up and services provided by the RCEDC. These are listed underneath the Program of Work with information provided at the bottom of the handout about the results that have been reported on behalf of the clients. This handout also provides some information concerning the governance function and funding of the organization. **(See Exhibit 4-A attached at the end of this document).**

Also provided for your information is a summary of the visits made by a member of our staff, Kevin Franklin. These are visits that he has made to companies that are located in the City of Trinity during 2014. The employment numbers listed on this handout is the number that was available either at the time of his visit or in a survey that he did requesting these numbers. **(See Exhibit 4-B attached at the end of this document.)**

Ms. Renfro summarized events reported by the Randolph County EDC since 1985 that included the following:

- New capital investments and growth in the tax base across Randolph County from the industrial sector of the economy and the new jobs associated with them.
- Provided outreach and assistance to our existing industries throughout the County through a direct call program, provide and maintain demographic research for Randolph County and made most of it available on our website.
- Marketing efforts that promotes Randolph County through two new videos to help share the story of Randolph County's quality of life and excellent workforce.
- Initiated a county wide strategic infrastructure planning forum to facilitate joint planning and communication for our local governments.

In closing Ms. Renfro discussed the value of the good relationship they had experienced with the City of Trinity in prior years and hoped that we could work together in the future. Ms. Renfro called for questions.

Council member Ayers asked how many retail or industrial persons had approached the EDC and specifically wanted to do business in the City of Trinity.

Ms. Renfro advised members that they did not work on retail projects but would respond with the information from research and demographics and help people who are seeking a retail location by connecting them to the right people who can help them.

She advised members that she could not give the absolute answer to the question regarding the industrial requests. It was her opinion that there were less than 10 contacts since the beginning of the year regarding the City of Trinity. Most of the inquiries come to us from a client looking for a specific space. They are looking for a building that they can buy and move into with or without repairs, and in some cases they are looking for a tract of land to construct a new building on. We access the inventory of information based on the client request which can be the northern portion of the county or the entire county. Those are the two (2) types of information that we would initially be sharing. We rarely are asked to provide information regarding a specific city or town.

With no other questions, Mayor Hill thanked Ms. Renfro for the information provided and advised her request would be considered during the budget workshops.

## **V. New Business**

### **5. Fire Inspections Report to date for year ending June 2015 and Contract Renewal for 2015-2016 Annual Fire Inspections**

Mayor Hill opened this item and called on Brian Causey, Fire Inspector with Guil-Rand Fire Department for his presentation to Council.

Mr. Causey briefed Council stating as of today, April 20, 2015, there are 179 businesses or buildings that are inspected within the corporate limits compared to 178 last year. To date there are 28 inspections left to be completed within the next two (2) months.

We have completed 151 routine inspections and 171 inspection activities.

The difference in these two numbers can be a result of re-inspections, multiple inspections that may be needed during new construction, and the requirement that all schools have two (2) inspections per year. All of these items count as inspection activities.

Mr. Causey called for questions concerning the inspections and code enforcements relating to that for the City.

Council member Ayers asked when a violation was found if a follow up visit was made to make sure the violation had been corrected.

Mr. Causey stated follow up depended on the severity of the violation. On some violations we consider a self-inspection or re-inspection. He used an expired fire extinguisher as an example. In this case I would allow the business to send me an e-mail or send the form back to me stating that this violation has been corrected. For more severe violations there will be a re-inspection.

Mayor Hill thanked Mr. Causey for the information shared with Council and advised him this item would be considered during the budget workshops.

#### **6. Consider Approval of Resolution Supporting the Display of the National Motto “In God We Trust”**

Mayor Hill called on Mr. Rick Lanier to provide information relating to this item to Council.

Mr. Lanier thanked Council for allowing him to speak again regarding this request. A formal presentation regarding this item was made during the Annual Council Retreat. This organization has received approximately 40 approvals from different county and town halls to display this message at their site.

Council member Frazier asked that a quick overview of what the “In God We Trust” motto was about for the audience and persons that may not have been at the Annual Council Retreat.

Mr. Lanier called on Richard Callahan to present the overview.

Mr. Callahan stated it was their desire to place on county and city municipality buildings across the state our United States Motto, “In God We Trust.” This has met with great success everywhere it has been presented. It was just approved in Asheboro for the County Building. I know there are regular demands on your funds for legitimate needs. We are not asking for money but permission to publically display our United States Motto on your building.

Mr. Lanier asked that Council members consider allowing the motto to be placed on the front side of the building as well as in the Council chambers. We would love to see Council approve the Resolution to place the motto in both places, but if the Council chooses to place it in one place to consider the exterior of the building. We are willing to take care of both locations if Council so chooses.

***Council member Payne made a motion to place the motto on the outside of City Hall and decide later if we would like a second location. The motion was seconded by Council member Lohr and approved unanimously by all Council members present by a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays.***

**7. Closed Session Pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (a) 4 and 5.**

*Motion by Council member Ayers to go into Closed Session at 6:50 pm seconded by Council member Daniels and approved unanimously by a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays.*

*Council member Frazier made a motion to return back to Open Session at 7:15 pm. The motion was seconded by Council member Byerly and approved unanimously by a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays.*

Mayor Hill stated no action was taken in the Closed Session.

**VI. Code Enforcement Report and Permits Report**

**8. Review Code Enforcement and Permits Reports**

Mayor Hill called on Mr. Allred, Interim Planner for review of the Code Enforcement and Permit Reports.

**Code Enforcement**

Mr. Allred stated that for the month of March and early April there were 11 cases opened and 10 closed regarding Code Enforcement.

**Permits Report**

There were 10 zoning permits issued for the month of March.

He called for questions regarding either of the reports.

Council member Ayres asked for an update concerning the Adcock property listed on the Code Enforcement Report.

Mr. Allred advised members that he had forwarded information regarding the Ordinances that are being violated by Mr. Adcock to his attorney along with the necessary steps needed to correct the violations. I am waiting on their reply.

**VII. Business from City Manager and Staff**

Mr. Baker discussed the following items:

**City Haul**

Mr. Baker stated that he was in the process of organizing this event and asked who was responsible for getting a sign-up sheet for workers at City Haul. He strongly urged that everyone participate at this event that would be held on May 7, 8, and 9.

Council member Frazier stated that she and Annette were working on this item.

Council member Carico asked Manager Hinson if temporary workers would be hired for City Haul. Manager Hinson acknowledged that temporary workers would be hired for this event.

**Update on Request to Purchase Chipper**

Mr. Baker discussed the request to investigate the possibility of purchasing a chipper with Powell Bill Funds. The price quote we received for this was \$21,000.00 for a free standing chipper.

I was able to get a rate of \$500.00 for a week rental on a chipper to use at City Haul through an associate of Council member Payne.

Using these numbers it would take us 20 years at the \$500.00 rental to pay for the cost of a new chipper.

We feel that the purchase a salting machine to go on the dump truck as well as a plow for the truck would be a better use for the remaining Powell Bill funds in this year. The purchase of the salt machine will save us money on salt that we currently purchase by the bag and will allow us to work out an agreement with the City of High Point to purchase a dump truck load of salt instead.

### **Morgan Street**

Council member Lohr discussed the conversation that took place on Thursday night regarding the need for resurfacing rather than patching on Morgan Street. He stated that he had looked at the patching and felt someone else should look at this because of the existing cracks. He stated that he thought that a price would be given tonight to resurface this street instead of patching.

Mr. Baker apologized for not having the information and advised members he would have this information available at the next meeting of Council.

Council member Lohr asked if this was a city street and if so who took care of snow removal when needed.

Mr. Baker stated that the City was responsible for snow removal. The city contracts with Miller Grading for snow removal. They start snow removal at the Industrial Park since it is located closest to their business. We will be available to take care of this street in the future with the new equipment.

### **Osborn Street**

Council member Lohr asked what the City planned to do concerning Osborn Street.

Mr. Baker stated that this street would be the City's responsibility as well.

The patching on this street is taking place now and the entire street will have an Overlay placed on it within two (2) weeks. This will be paid by sewer funds and Powell Bill Funds.

Council member Gantt asked Mr. Baker if the City planned to still utilize the services of Miller Grading.

Mr. Baker expressed to members that Miller Grading would still be used on an emergency basis. If we feel that we can't get to all of the city streets within the first day as Council member Lohr discussed, we will need to use these services. We will be reducing the costs that the City currently pays for this service.

### **Business from City Manager**

Manager Hinson discussed the following:

**Jacob Carrol Clean-up:** We would like to encourage everyone that can participate in this event to sign up. The dates for this event should be posted on the board or you may call City Hall and we will be glad to provide them to you.

**Meeting Schedule:** The meeting date for the Planning/Zoning Board is scheduled for Monday, May 25, 2015. This meeting will need to be rescheduled due to the Memorial Day Holiday. The revised date will be posted on the board and website as soon as an alternate date is set by the Planning Board.

Has the new date been posted on the website and revised on the meeting schedule and posted to the board?

### **VIII. Business from Mayor and Council**

Council member Payne discussed the moratorium that currently existed on the street light program. He reported a dangerous situation located in our city and referred to a DEA drug bust that took place in our city. The persons located in this area were frightened and there was panic because there were no street lights in that area.

He asked that removal of the Street Light Moratorium be added to the May Agenda for discussion. Duke Energy has already performed the study for the streets in this area. The people in this area need an answer and they need to be represented on this board.

Mayor Hill called for a motion to have this item added to the May Agenda.

***Council member Payne made a motion to add discussion regarding the removal of the Street Light Moratorium. The motion was seconded by Council member Lohr and approved by a vote of 7 ayes and 1 nay.***

### **IX. Adjournment**

With no other business to discuss, ***motion by Council member Frazier to adjourn the April 20, 2015 at 7:30 pm. The motion was seconded by Council member Daniels and approved unanimously by a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays.***